

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/730,647

Applicant(s)

CHENG ET AL.

Examiner

SAJEDA MUHEBULLAH

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 10/12/10.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 8-11, 29-36.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT and REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney YongHong Chen on 10/12/2010.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 29 is amended as follows:

29. A machine-readable non-transitory storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform a method of displaying e-commerce partners within an e-commerce system including an e-commerce application and a commerce graphical user interface, the e-commerce application enabling an e-commerce entity to conduct business with e-commerce partners via a communicatively linked network, the method comprising the steps of:

for each of the e-commerce partners automatically determining by an active engine of the e-commerce application whether said e-commerce partner is an active partner based on the following criteria:

detecting whether a transaction has occurred with said e-commerce partner within a designated time period,

determining whether transactions involving said e-commerce partner exceed a designated valuation threshold,

determining whether a transaction involving said e-commerce partner exceeds a designated data size, and

determining whether said e-commerce partner has a preference level above a designated preference level,

wherein the corresponding criteria for determining whether an e-commerce partner is an active partner are adjustable;

presenting a list of active e-commerce partners within the commerce graphical user interface, each active e-commerce partner being presented as an expandable partner node;

when the partner node is expanded, presenting at least one transaction node as a child node of said expanded partner node, wherein each transaction node represents an e-commerce transaction between the e-commerce entity and said e-commerce partner;

visually differentiating different types of transaction nodes and different categories of partner nodes, wherein error transaction nodes are highlighted and automatically expanded responsive to an error detection; and

assigning by a transaction router of tile e-commerce application responsible personnel to transactions based on predetermined rules, wherein the predetermined rules are adjustable, and wherein most qualified personnel is assigned to most profitable transactions.

Claim 30 is amended as follows:

30. The machine-readable non-transitory storage of claim 29, wherein said e-commerce partners include at least one trading partner.

Claim 31 is amended as follows:

31. The machine-readable non-transitory storage of claim 30, said method further comprising the step of:

providing a business partner gateway, wherein said commerce graphical user interface is an interface for interacting with said business partner gateway.

Claim 32 is amended as follows:

32. The machine-readable non-transitory storage of claim 29, further comprising the step of:

detecting an electronic data interchange (EDI) transmission error; and
indicating within said graphical user interface that an error occurred during an associated transmission.

Claim 33 is amended as follows:

33. The machine-readable non-transitory storage of claim 29, further comprising the step of:

receiving a selection specifying a node of said graphical user interface;
responsively establishing a communication session between a user of said commerce graphical user interface and the e-commerce partner associated with said node.

Claim 34 is amended as follows:

34. The machine-readable non-transitory storage of claim 33, wherein said communication session is an instant messaging session.

Claim 35 is amended as follows:

35. The machine-readable non-transitory storage of claim 33, wherein said establishing step further comprises the steps of:

selecting a communication channel; and

establishing said communication session through said communication channel,

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

O'Neill teaches a method of displaying an e-commerce interface wherein active partners are determined by a preference level. However, O'Neill does not disclose active partners to be based on all of the criteria claimed in the independent claims 1, 29, and 36. Therefore, neither O'Neill alone, or in combination with other prior art teach or suggest the claimed limitations as recited in the claims 1-3, 8-11 and 29-36.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SAJEDA MUHEBBULLAH whose telephone number is (571)272-4065. The examiner can normally be reached on alt. Mon & Tue/Wed 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dennis Chow can be reached on 571-272-7767. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/SAJEDA MUHEBBULLAH/
Examiner, Art Unit 2174

/DENNIS-DOON CHOW/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2174